NATIONAL COASTAL DATA **DEVELOPMENT CENTER**

www.ncddc.noaa.gov

The National Coastal Data Development Center, a division of the National Oceanographic Data Center, is dedicated to building the long-term coastal data record to support environmental prediction, scientific analyses, and formulation of public policy.

NCDDC achieves this mission by:

- Simplifying data discovery
- **Ensuring data quality**
- Making new products available

NCDDC brings together diverse coastal data from a variety of sources and provides users access to the data in formats specific to their needs.

NCDDC adds value to the taxpayer dollar by partnering across NOAA and with other agencies to improve access to information vital for making informed decisions that affect the livelihoods and safety of Americans.



Oil Spill Response



Ocean Exploration & **Research Digital Atlas**



Metadata Training



NOAA Habitat Restoration Monitoring (NOHARM)









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National Coastal Data
Development Center
Building 1100, Suite 101
Stennis Space Center, MS 39529
NCDDC@noaa.gov
Russ Beard, Director/Division Chief
Phone: 228-688-3026
Email: russ.beard@noaa.gov

FAX: 228-688-2010 or 2968

Since the early 1970's, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has had a presence at Stennis Space Center on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. NCDDC was formed at Stennis in 2000, to provide comprehensive scientific stewardship for national and international marine environmental and ecosystem data and information.

Significant Regional Activities

In response to the **Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill**, NCDDC supports the interagency Joint Analysis Group (JAG) for Surface and Sub-Surface Oceanography, Oil, and Dispersant Data. NCDDC acts as the JAG team lead for compiling and processing data and observations, and created and hosts the JAG Web site [http://ecowatch.ncddc.noaa.gov/JAG/]. NCDDC, together with the Mississippi/Alabama Sea Grant Program, also created the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Research and Monitoring Activities Database, a single Website for uploading and accessing information about research and monitoring activities related to the oil spill [http://gulfseagrant.tamu.edu/oilspill/database.htm].

NCDDC responded to a request from the U.S. Navy to support **recovery efforts in Haiti** after the catastrophic 7.0 magnitude earthquake in January 2010. NCDDC distributed data for products and services which were pivotal to the Department of Defense, first responders, Fleet Survey Teams, the Haitian government, and other foreign government workers.

NCDDC is an active partner in the Gulf of Mexico Alliance, working with the five U.S. Gulf States on six regionally significant priority issues that can be effectively addressed through increased collaboration at local, state, and federal levels.

"Celebrating Ten years of Ocean Exploration..."

NCDDC partners with NOAA's Office of Ocean Exploration and Research to provide access to the scientific data and information collected during ocean exploration. The Digital Atlas [explore.noaa.gov/DigitalAtlas] provides a central access portal to distributed data holdings.

In 2010, NCDDC provided near-real time access to information collected during the **Indonesia-U.S. Ocean Exploration Expedition**, identified by the administration as one of NOAA's most important international scientific partnerships. The **NOAA Ship Okeanos Explorer** data collection can be accessed on line through the Okeanos Digital Atlas *[explore.noaa.gov/OkeanosAtlas]*.

Metadata Training

NCDDC works closely with constituents to offer metadata training and ongoing support for the development of standardized metadata. In 2010 the NCDDC team trained 250 constituents in 27 training sessions.

[http://www.ncddc.noaa.gov/activities/metadata-training/]

NCDDC staff work closely with the FGDC to lead the national transition to the newly sanctioned ISO standards, and are working with the NOAA Environmental Data Management Committee to develop a NOAA Metadata Directive to define a path forward for this transition within NOAA.

Geospatial services provide data access

The NCDDC Geospatial team provides a variety of innovative online geospatial services to enhance public access to geospatial data and information [http://www.ncddc.noaa.gov/interactivemaps]. For example:

NOAA's **National Marine Fisheries** (NMFS) partnered with NCDDC to develop the **NOAA Habitat Restoration Monitoring** (NOHARM) website. The site provides access to information collected by the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act (CWPPRA). These monitoring data support the 24 NOAA Fisheries CWPPRA projects that benefit over 100,000 acres of wetlands in coastal Louisiana. It is one of the first NOAA efforts to integrate a time series of very high resolution satellite imagery into the monitoring effort.

NOAA's **National Marine Sanctuaries Program** partnered with NCDDC to create an on-line GIS-based mapping tool of the **Flower Garden Banks Sanctuary**. Of key interest is the integration of remotely operated vehicle tracks and associated underwater photographs, summary reports and species identification, which are displayed with other contextual data.